

From the Desk of
Kevin Kimle

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January 14, 2002

Judge Kolar Kottely
c/o Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney – Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Judge Kottely,

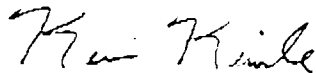
I hope that no one in this country takes for granted that we have countless opportunities to be successful! If people from other nations recognize and respect the "American Dream" and have even come here to achieve it, then why have we prosecuted a company that has been such a good representation of the American Dream?

I am speaking of the Microsoft case. Microsoft has been legally pursued for too long, and the recent settlement provides a fair and just ending with nine prosecuting states. The settlement was fair for a number of reasons: Microsoft agrees not to punish companies that do not promote their products, and they go even further by sharing their intellectual property when it is necessary. I am glad to see a settlement was reached, and support the agreement completely.

As someone who has spearheaded two startup companies in the technology industry here in Iowa, I understand the investments that have to be made and the risks that have to be taken. Microsoft has taken the risk, made billions of dollars in investments, and contributed a great deal to the technology industry. It was high time that we brought this lawsuit to a proper ending.

Thank you for your attention to my thoughts.

Sincerely,



Kevin Kimle